

Unsanitary/filthy conditions around CHE

1 message

Mon, Aug 26, 2019 at 1:55 PM

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>, Timothy Mcwilliams <tim.mcwilliams@lacity.org>, David Michaelson <david.michaelson@lacity.org>, Leela Kapur <leela.kapur@lacity.org>

Good afternoon.

I am writing to request that something be done about the unsanitary and filthy conditions around the City building complexes generally and around CHE specifically. This email was prompted by my seeing a large pile of human feces on the sidewalk near the bus stop across from City Hall South while walking to Court this morning. It looked and smelled disgusting and I imagine unsanitary.

I commute to work daily and walk from Union Station to CHE. I routinely smell and see human feces and urine on the sidewalk, and floors and walls of the LA Mall entrances and near the entrances to CHE. On some mornings, the sidewalk, floors and stairs of the CHE entrances have been hosed down and are wet. Though I try not to step on the wet parts, it is usually unavoidable and some of the effluent (which is likely filled with germs/contaminants) ends up splashing on the bare skin of my legs. And I am left feeling revolted and uneasy.

I very much sympathize with the plight of our homeless population and understand that homelessness is an issue that needs to be addressed broadly and systemically. In addition, coming from an underprivileged background myself, I am not at all squeamish or easily put off. However, the unsanitary conditions around our City building complex are worsening and based on my conversations with fellow City employees, are reducing moral and reflect poorly on our great City. Those of us who work at CHE shouldn't have to see and smell or otherwise be exposed to human feces and urine at the entrances of and around our City building complex.

The primary sanitary issue I am requesting be addressed is the urinating and defecating near or at the entrances of the City building complex, including CHE. It goes without saying that when nature calls, one has to answer, even if it is in the middle of sidewalk across from City Hall South! As such, perhaps one possible solution is to provide clearly visible bathrooms that are easily accessible and available for use by the homeless 24 hours a day. I understand that a myriad of logistical and financial obstacles may need to be overcome in order to do so but the idea should at least be explored or some other solution be implemented for the good of those who work in these buildings and for the public.

Thank you very much,

Deputy City Attorney Los Angeles City Attorney's Office Real Property/Environment Division 200 N. Main St., 7th Floor, City Hall East

Los Angeles, CA 90012



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Fwd: Personal Security Advice From LAPD

1 message

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>
Co: "Brente, Cory" <cory.brente@lacity.org>

Wed, Aug 7, 2019 at 12:33 PM

Hi Steph:

I am forwarding this email to you that one of my secretaries, Brenda Perez, send to Cory and I. Cory is going to forward it to Hugo and Leela. Does management have any updates on how they intend to protect the safety of their employees? The other night when I was leaving on the 2nd floor there was a man smoking a crack pipe right on the benches outside the 2nd floor doors. I went back in to tell the guards, and they didn't seem overly concerned, nor did they get up to investigate, at least while I was still there.

All the employees' safety is at risk day and night outside. I still have one solution that will keep us safe from the drama outside. "GATES" See the attached picture of a marine base with metal gates surrounding the building, in a nice area in Pasadena where they want to keep out intruders. The City can post guards at the openings to monitor people who are coming in to conduct business here, and escort them to the elevator as they do in the LAPD Headquarters building across the street. I can dream...

It's so overwhelmingly distressing. Please advise as to what I can tell Brenda.

Thanks.

----- Forwarded message -----

From:

Date: Tue, Aug 6, 2019 at 11:49 AM

Subject: Re: Personal Security Advice From LAPD

To: Brente, Cory <cory.brente@lacity.org>, Kathy Finan <kathy.finan@lacity.org>

Hi Cory and Kathy,

Can we get training on what to do if someone attempts to become physical with you?

Just yesterday, as I was exiting the building, a homeless man was trying to have some sort of physical confrontation with me. He kept attempting to hit me with this sweater and trying to bump into me. I kept my distance and tried to walk away but the homeless man kept following me until a man (maybe a city employee) stepped in and helped me get away. I did not report it to security because I don't think I was in grave danger but nonetheless I think it's important to know what to do in those situations. Hope this does not happen again.



HOMELESS WOMAN IN 6TH FLOOR BATHROOM

1 message

Thu, Jul 18, 2019 at 11:54 AM

To: Stephanie Bacica <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Cc: Yvonne Elias <yvonne.elias@lacity.org>, kathy.finan@lacity.org, Anna Wander <anna.wander@lacity.org>

Steph:

I forgot to mention something else that brought to my attention. She arrives at 6:30 am most mornings, and comes in through the 1st floor doors. When she does, there is no guard on duty on the 1st floor at that time. She said that she has seen homeless making an attempt to follow people in the door of the building.

Thanks.



Homeless encounter

1 message

Fri, Apr 12, 2019 at 1:09 PM

To: Hugo Rossitter <hugo.rossitter@lacity.org>

Cc: Noreen Vincent <noreen.vincent@lacity.org>, Stephanie Bacica <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>, Regina Mills <regina.mills@lacity.org>

Re: Encounter with homeless person outside first floor north - City Hall East

Dear:

This is to report the above about 4-8 weeks ago when there were lots of homeless persons outside City Hall East on the north side. As I left the first floor north exit a homeless person asked for money. I said no and then he started to move his arms up as if he was going to push or hit me. I immediately yelled to "get out of my way." He then just passed me by without touching me or saying or doing anything.

I can't remember what he looked or dressed like since there were a lot of homeless outside and I was hurrying to get to Union Station to catch the train.

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PICS OF HOMELESS - Email 1

1 message

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:03 PM

Stephanie:

Here are some of the many pics I have on a few emails. I saved them by date and time.

This first pic is what I faced when leaving out of here at night at 6:24pm. It is very shocking!!



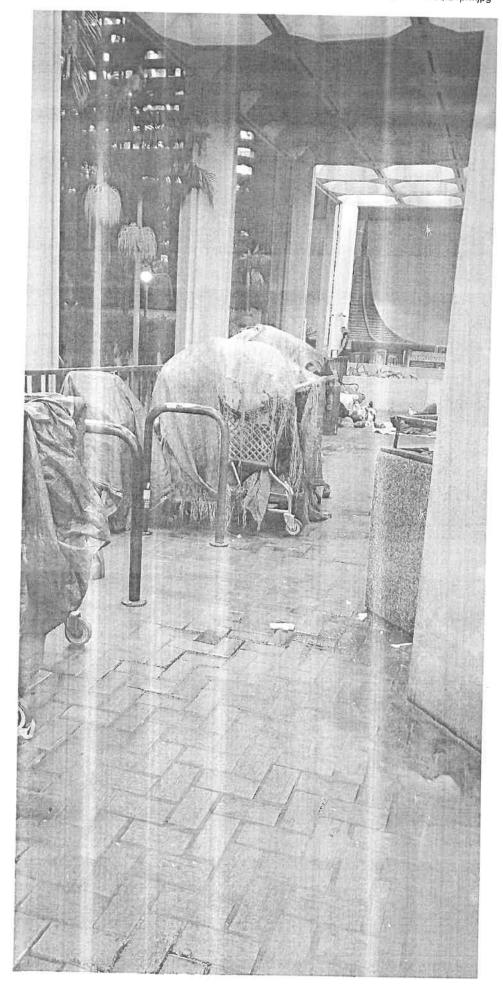
200 N. Main Street, 6th Fl., CHE Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 978-8785 Fax Mail Stop 140

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1.07.19 at 6.24pm.jpg 2725K





PICS OF HOMELESS - Email 2

1 message

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:05 PM

Stephanie:

These next (2) pics are unbelievable.

Police Litigation Unit 200 N. Main Street, 6th Fl., CHE Los Angeles, CA 90012

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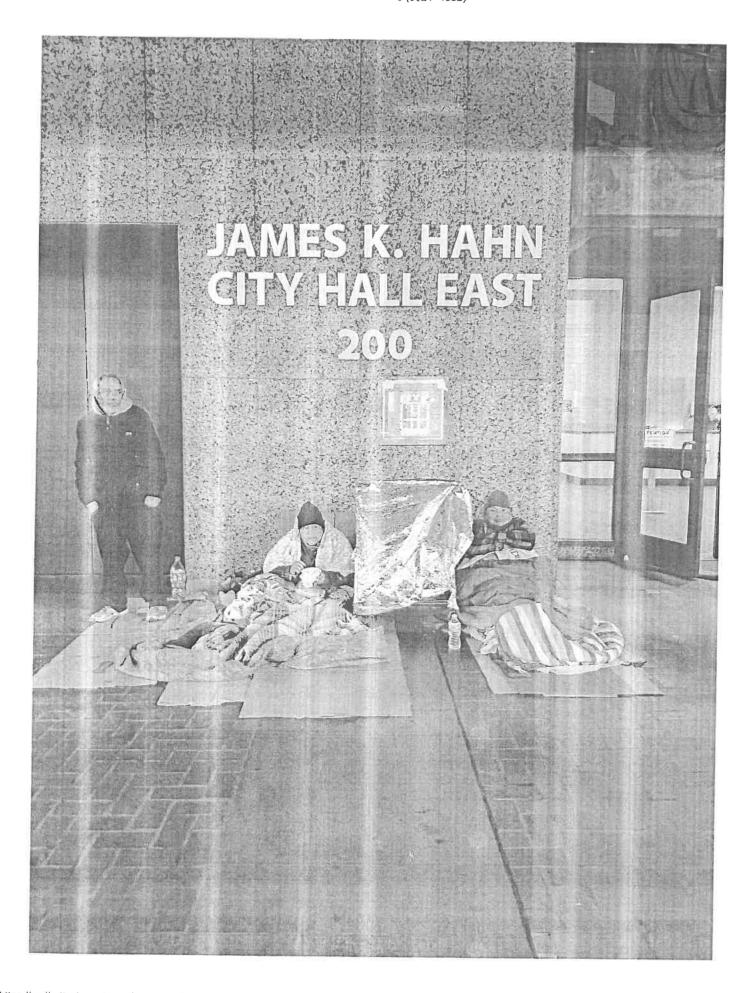
2 attachments

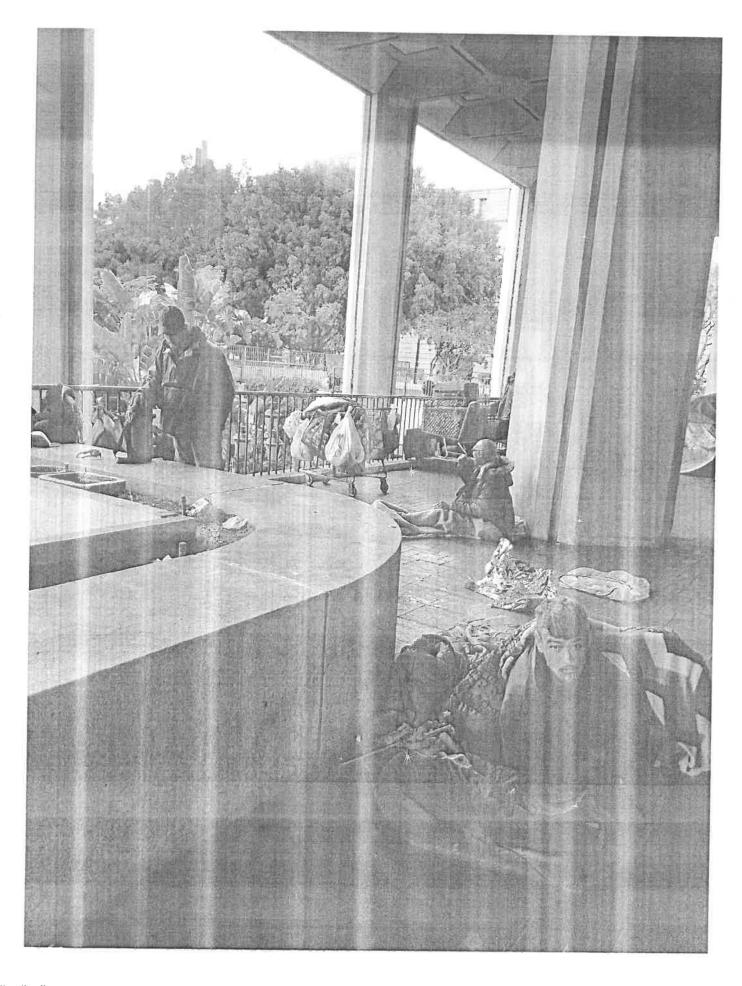


12.06.18 at 4.43pm.jpg 3136K



12.06.18 at 4.42pm.jpg 4109K







PICS OF HOMELESS - Email 3

1 message

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:06 PM

Stephanie:

And more....



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5 attachments



1.14.18 at 5.39pm.jpg 1691K



1.18.18 at 5.53pm.jpg 1748K

1.08.18 at 9.59am.jpg 2357K



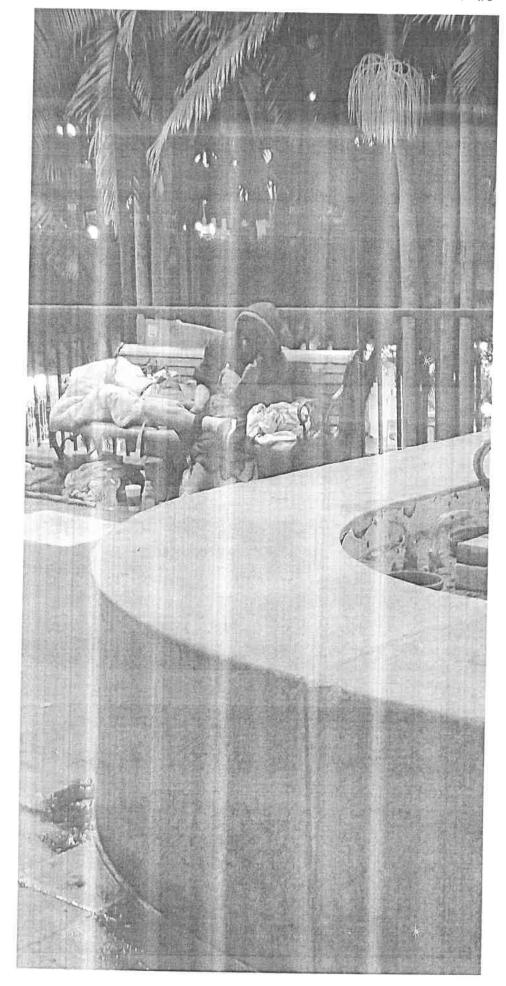


11.30.18 at 10.39am-a.jpg 3211K



11.30.18 at 10.39am.jpg 3427K













PICS OF HOMELESS - Email 4

1 message

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:08 PM

Stephanie:

And more....



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6 attachments



12.03.18 at 11.03am.jpg 3159K



12.06.18 at 4.41pm.jpg 3946K

12.14.18 at 12.58pm-a.jpg 4171K





12.14.18 at **12.58pm.jpg** 4749K

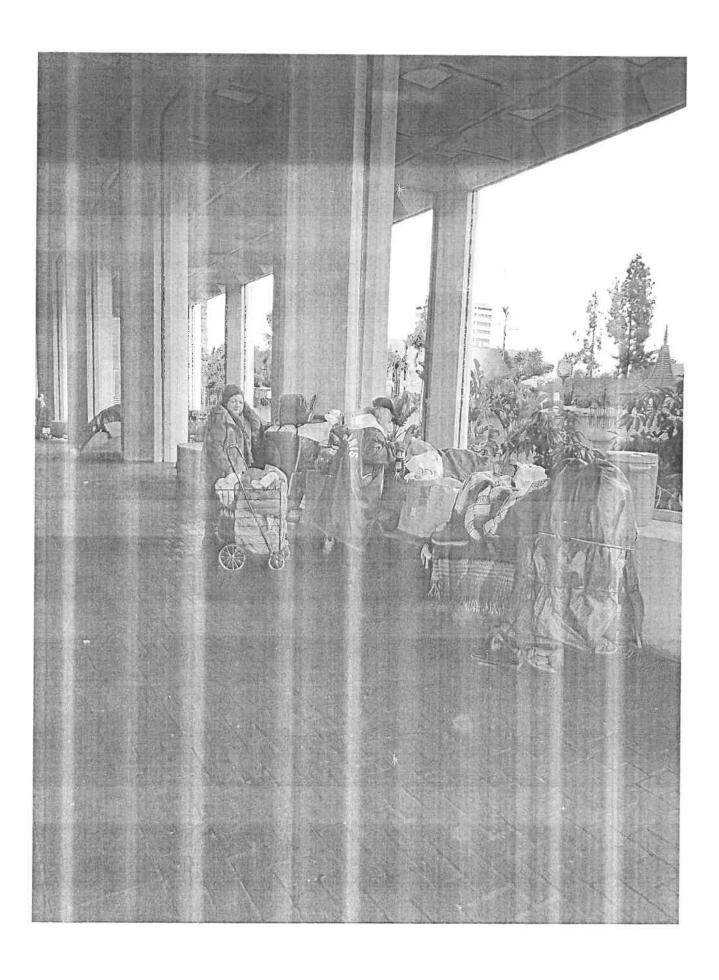


12.05.18 at 11.28am.jpg 5246K



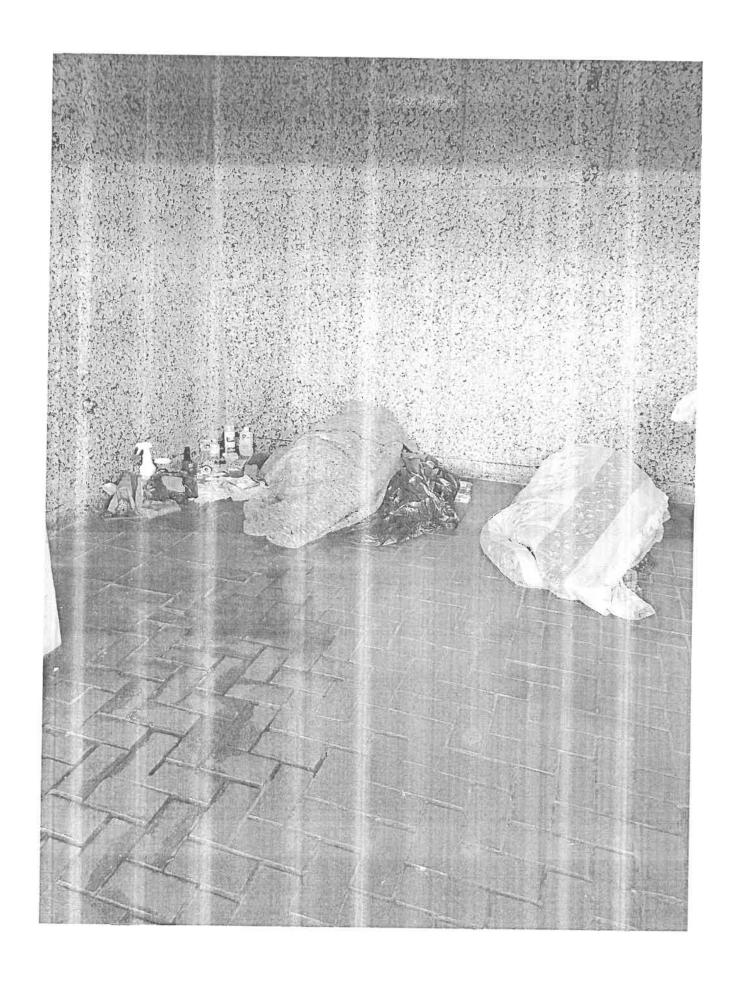
12.17.18 at 10.37am.jpg 3822K















PICS OF HOMELESS - Email 5

1 message

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:09 PM

Condoms on ground 2:02pm



Police Litigation Unit 200 N. Main Street, 6th Fl., CHE

Los Angeles, CA 90012

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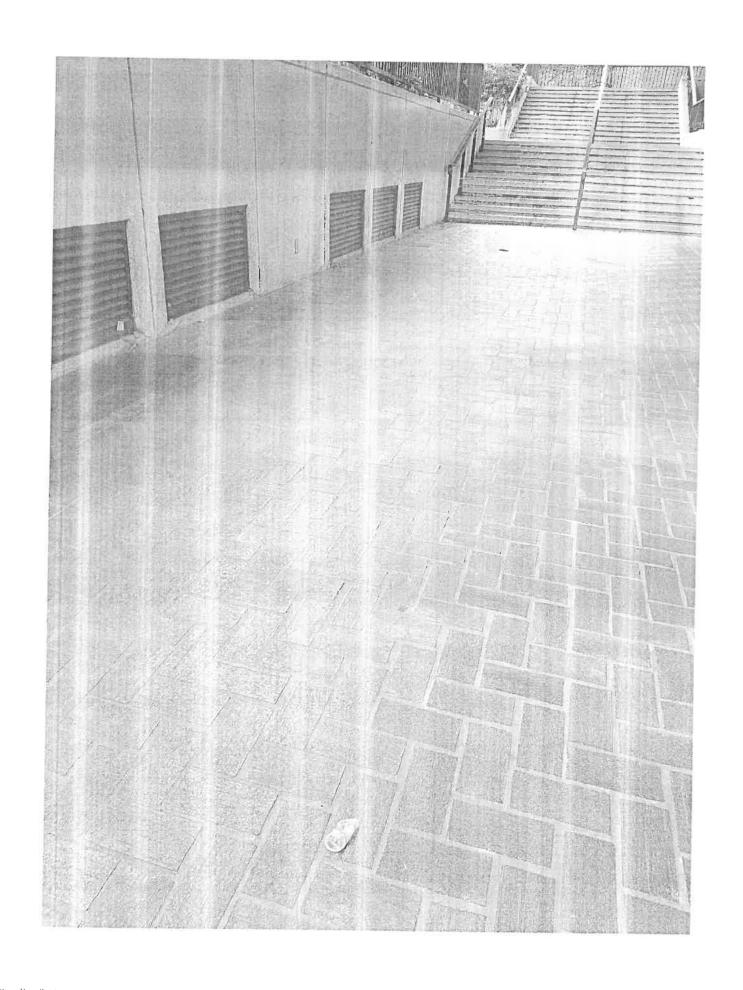
2 attachments



12.14.18 at 2.02pm.jpg 5934K



12.14.18 at 2.02pm-2.jpg 5559K







HOMELESS PICS

1 message

Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:24 PM

To: Stephanie Ybarra <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Stephanie:

Too bad I can't capture the smell and the bugs flying in pools outside the doors from the stench and filth.

I was told by the electrical contractors who eat lunch at California Pita on the outside benches that they have seen homeless having sex and shooting up drugs on the benches on the 2nd floor during their lunch time around 11:30am. They have a full view while eating their lunch.

Another man who cleans up the grounds told me that he finds needles, feces and all kinds of filth on the ground and bushes and was attacked while cleaning downstairs. He starts work at 5am.

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Re: Follow up

1 message

To: Stephanie Bacica <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org>

Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 1:04 PM

Thank you very much for helping me with this! I ran into the grounds cleaner outside who I have talked with before, and he told me he has found a lot more awful things outside and he has many pics he is going to send me. He also told me that the City or his Union (not sure which), are proposing to pay he and other employees who clean the outside grounds additional hazard pay because of what they have been encountering outside, debris and attacks from the homeless.

On Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 12:13 PM Stephanie Bacica <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org> wrote: Hi. I just want you to know we have attorneys looking into the safety and cleanliness of outside our building. I will let you know if I hear any specifics. Have a great weekend. Steph

Sent from my iPhone

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Los Angeles City Attorney, which may be confidential or protected by the attorney-client privilege and/or the work product doctrine. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution

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Incident Aggressive Panhandling at LA Mall ATM / No Security At 1st Fl Post During **Business Hours**

1 message

Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 12:50 PM

To: Stephanie Bacica <stephanie.ybarra@lacity.org> Cc: Noreen Vincent <noreen.vincent@lacity.org>, David Michaelson <david.michaelson@lacity.org>

Please see attached.

200 N. Main St., Room 920 Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 978-7711 Fax

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ATMIncidentMarch19.docx 13K

TO:

Stephanie Ybarra, Personnel

FROM:

REGARDING:

Incident at LA Mall ATM - Involving Aggressive Panhandling

Yesterday evening, March 19, 2019, at approximately 4:50 p.m., I went to use the ATM just outside of City Hall East (CHE), first floor. Upon exiting the building, I noticed two older white males who appeared to be transient, sitting on the bench just outside of the first floor entry/exit doors. I then headed to the ATM located approximately 100 feet away. As I walked over to the ATM, I observed no other people besides the two men.

Midway through my ATM transaction, out of nowhere a third man appeared. He came close to me, approximately 5 feet away, and began asking me for change. I told him I had no money. He then suggested that I get change from the store inside City Hall East (Trimana). I said that it was probably closed.

He did not move from his position and continued to watch me as the ATM dispensed cash and I took the cash, putting it in my pocket.

At this point, I became very apprehensive. I had no idea whether he knew the other two men. I do know that I felt extremely uncomfortable being alone near a cash machine and being stared down as I put cash in my pocket, with two other transient males in close proximity.

As I started to walk away from the ATM and back towards CHE, this third man started following me and stated out loud, "I really wish you had some change."

Being followed by one man and having to pass two additional men, all three of whom appeared to be transient, I was extremely nervous and worried for my safety.

As I entered the building, the first thing I noticed was that the security post was un-manned. No security guard was present. I looked at my phone; it was 4:53 p.m. I then remembered that when I initially exited CHE, there was no security guard present at that time either.

My question: Where was security?

It would've been helpful to have someone there to report this incident and to keep a closer eye on activities occurring just outside the doors, or at the very least, call for extra security.

This morning, I called the security desk on the second floor. They told me that first floor security should be present from the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. And that the Mall officially closes at 5 p.m.

All City employees should have peace of mind that, at least during business hours, security is present.



Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>

Fwd:

1 message

To: Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>

Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 11:45 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 11:35 AM

Subject: Fwd:

To: Oscar Winslow <oscar.winslow@lacity.org>, Josh Geller <joshua.geller@lacity.org>, Ann Rosenthal

<ann.rosenthal@lacity.org>

I just went around City Hall East taking these photographs. The first photograph depicts an area where Patty Bilgin saw 3 dead baby mice that fell out of the tree above a couple months ago. Pictures 2-5 show areas around City Hall East (near entrances and exits including the parking garage where there are Terminix boxes possibly rat traps. These traps aren't even in the areas where vermon live. What are these boxes and what is our exposure given they are so close to entrance/exits of City Hall East? The rest of the pictures are of planters outside City Hall East across the street from City Hall. I personally and on more than one occasion have have seen rats jumping up out of these planters as I returned from court. I was too afraid to take pictures of the homeless people and their proximity to the entrances and exits of City Hall. There is one particular homeless woman and others who sit on a bench right next to the entrance/exit for the first floor to City Hall East. The other exits on the first floor have been closed. If you enter or exit from the second floor you have to pass numerous homeless people. Last week she got up to walk away and she smelled heavily of recent piss and urine from that same bench. I am quite concerned for not only my health and welfare but the welfare of my colleagues working at City Hall East given the typhoid epidemic downtown identified by County health and the recent news footage involving same. I have been here at City Hall East about four years. The carpet is disgusting. I have personally asked Sarkis Aleksanian about having the carpets cleaned. He stated to me that he had inquired and was told no. The carpet has not been cleaned. I am concerned about what is being tracked in especially with our proximity to the homeless. There are no janitorial services. Has anybody contacted vector control? Are there any plans to clean carpets, etc. Are there any plans to exterminate?

Forwarded message

Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 11:14 AM

Subject:

Sent from my iPhone

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12 attachments



IMG_3691.JPG 99K



IMG_3693.JPG 107K

IMG_3694.JPG 108K





IMG_3697.JPG 100K



IMG_3702.JPG 115K



IMG_3703.JPG 132K



IMG_3704.JPG 85K

IMG_3706.JPG 91K





IMG_3708.JPG 98K



IMG_3711.JPG 76K



IMG_3715.JPG 89K



IMG_3718.JPG 92K



Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>

Re: Homeless person on 6th floor - female was in our bathroom

1 message

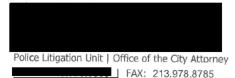
Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 7:38 PM

To: Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>
Cc: "Finan, Kathy" <kathy.finan@lacity.org>

Hi Sarkis,

Thank you for letting us know.

Sincerely,



On Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 6:25 PM Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi

LAPD conducted a patrol of the floor and found no evidence of any transients. A secondary patrol will be conducted later on.

Thanks, Sarkis

On Wed, Jul 17, 2019, 5:15 PM Hi Sarkis,

wrote:

Could you please have someone come up here and check the 6th floor and the stairway areas for this person?

Also, we need to have our bathroom cleaned up. It reeks!!

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Police Litigation Unit | Office of the City Attorney | FAX: 213.978.8785

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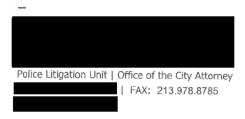
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Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>

PM

Re: transient in Women's Restroom 6th floor	
o: Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org></sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>	Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 6:26
Thank you, Sarkis.	
I met up with a female officer in the hallway. We were talking and She asked if we had a description of the transient. She asked if we had a description of the transient.	vil was in the hallway as well. give a description of the
On Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 6:24 PM Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org> wro</sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>	ote:
LAPD conducted a patrol of the floor and found no evidence of any transients. A secondater on.	ndary patrol will be conducted
Thanks, Sarkis	
On Wed, Jul 17, 2019, 5:32 PM wrote: told me that this woman had a visitor's key card and that's how she most like She was also trying to get into the librarypossibly to sleep since everyone is gone.	ely got into the ladies restroom.
On Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 5:16 PM Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org></sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>	wrote:
I'll call Security to verify. Thanks for letting me know.	
On Wed, Jul 17, 2019, 5:14 PM wrote	э:
texted me to tell the girls that there was a homeless woman in our in there and the 'odor' is in the hallway so she's somewhere around unless Secures escorted her out.	urity Services has already
Police Litigation Unit 200 N. Main St., 6th FI. City Hall East Los Angeles, CA 90012	
Fax: (213) 978-8785 In Defense of the Men & Women of the LAPD	

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Fax: (213) 978-8785 In Defense of the Men & Women of the LAPD



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Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney

Police Litigation Unit 200 N. Main St., 6th Fl. City Hall East Los Appeles, CA, 20013

Los Angeles, CA 90012

In Defense of the Men & Women of the LAPD



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Gustavo Plascencia <gustavo.plascencia@lacity.org>

Re: Incident

1 message

Mon, Oct 21, 2019 at 2:36 PM

To: Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>

Cc: David Villegas <david.villegas@lacity.org>, David Trujillo <david.trujillo@lacity.org>, Gustavo Plascencia <gustavo.plascencia@lacity.org>

Hi Sarkis.

Here's my report.

Thanks,

Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney

Los Angeles, CA 90012



On Mon, Oct 21, 2019 at 10:54 AM Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org> wrote:

My suggestion: file a Police report. I've copied HR in case they have any other info to provide you.

Sorry this occurred to you.

Thanks, Sarkis

On Mon, Oct 21, 2019, 10:49 AM

vrote:

Hi Sarkis,

Sorry to bother you but not sure who I have to report this too. This morning on my way to get coffee from Starbucks a bum spit on me I know it's gotten better out there but I just wanted to report this.

Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney

200 N. Main St. Los Angeles, CA 90012



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128K



Gustavo Plascencia <gustavo.plascencia@lacity.org>

Re: Sanitary Conditions

1 message

Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 26, 2019 at 11:19 AM

Bcc: gustavo.plascencia@lacity.org



I just met with Janitorial Supervisors at the area in question.

The acknowledged the concern and will be contracting with a vendor to pressure wash the area. They mentioned that the smells do tend to get worse as the weather heats up too.

Regardless, it's on their radar and they will be working to clean it up.

Thanks, Sarkis

On Mon, Aug 26, 2019, 6:40 AM Sarkis Aleksanian <sarkis.aleksanian@lacity.org> wrote:

I apologize that you have had to experience that on numerous occasions. Although I cannot speak on behalf of the janitorial staff, I do know that the lack of man power and a large area of responsibility play a huge role in this.

I will definitely forward this to their supervisor and hopefully he makes some adjustments on his end to get this right.

Thank you, Sarkis

On Fri, Aug 23, 2019 at 4:31 PM : Hi Sarkis,

wrote:

I wasn't sure who to contact to report the sanitary conditions around the office so feel free to direct me accordingly. I did want to report that the past three days, when coming to work near the homeless information booth and the cell phone charging station, each time I walked down the stairs to get to the employee entrance on the 1st floor, there is a very disgusting smell that made me instantly nauseous and made me immediately gag upon smelling it. I did not try to decipher what exactly it was, however, it was either human feces or vomit. Coming across very disgusting smells just getting to the entrance of the building has become very disturbing and disruptive. Is there any way where this can be addressed on a consistent manner? Please help! Thanks.

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office 200 N. Main St Ste 500

LA. CA 90012

978-2682 Fax



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